

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of treating or inhibiting obesity in a patient, comprising identifying a compound which inhibits de novo lipogenesis in a mammal, and administering an effective obesity inhibiting amount of said compound to said patient.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said compound is substantially free of anticonvulsant properties.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said compound inhibits activity of at least one mammalian carboanhydrase in an *in vitro* enzyme activity test, and reduces the amount of metabolic products formed in the citric acid cycle of isolated living mammalian cells.
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said compound is administered to the patient over a period of at least six weeks.
5. A method of treating or inhibiting obesity in a patient, said method comprising administering to said patient an effective obesity inhibiting amount of a compound which inhibits de novo lipogenesis in a mammal, with the proviso that said compound is not topiramate.

6. A method according to claim 5, wherein said compound is a compound that inhibits at least one mammalian carboanhydrase.